

Milwaukee County

County Executive Scott Walker Board Chairman Lee Holloway

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WALKER, HOLLOWAY JOIN FORCES TO DEVELOP MILWAUKEE PUBLIC MUSEUM RECOVERY COMMITTEE

Twelve appointees will help guide MPM to financial stability

Milwaukee, WI – Milwaukee County Executive Scott Walker and Milwaukee County Board Chairman Lee Holloway have announced the creation of a committee to preserve and improve the Milwaukee Public Museum for future generations.

The County is following the recommendation of the MPM Financial Oversight Committee, which recently suggested creating a joint planning committee comprised of Museum stakeholders. The Oversight Committee was formed by the County after the 2005 discovery that budget holes were being plugged with unauthorized withdrawals from a Museum endowment. The recovery from that mismanagement is underway. The newly formed **Museum Recovery Committee** is charged with improving the Museum's financial condition and paving the road to fiscal stability and full recovery.

"We have two goals in creating this committee," said County Executive Walker, "protect the county taxpayers and help the museum return to financial stability."

"Milwaukee County is closely associated with the Milwaukee Public Museum," said Chairman Holloway. "We contribute millions of dollars every year for the operation of the museum, both for general operations and capital projects. We want to make sure the museum fully recovers from its financial difficulties. This Committee is the next step toward recovery."

The Committee will help the museum tackle critical financial decisions. **Dr. Mary Meehan**, President of Alverno College, will chair the Committee, which includes eleven other appointees:

- Milwaukee County Board appointees
 - o Gerry Broderick, 3rd District Milwaukee County Supervisor

- o Terrence Cooley, Chief of Staff, Milwaukee County Board of Supervisors
- o Stephen Cady, Fiscal and Budget Analyst, Milwaukee County Board of Supervisors
- Milwaukee County Executive appointees
 - o **Jim Villa**, Chief of Staff, Milwaukee County Executive's Office
 - Linda Seemeyer, Director, Milwaukee County Department of Administrative Services
 - O Cynthia Archer (Note: Archer has been nominated to the position of Fiscal and Budget Administrator. The appointment is pending confirmation by the County Board.)
- Museum appointees
 - o Dan Finley, President and CEO, Milwaukee Public Museum
 - John Schlifske, Milwaukee Public Museum Board Chairman, Senior Vice President, Northwestern Mutual
- Foundation appointee
 - o F. William Haberman, President, The Richard and Ethel Herzfeld Foundation
- Financial appointees
 - o Mark Hogan, Senior Vice President and Chief Credit Officer, M&I Bank
 - o James Popp, Wisconsin Market President, Chase Bank

"The Museum will be better than ever after these committed people develop a plan for our fiscal recovery," Museum President Dan Finley said. "We can't wait to get started."

"The County Board will continue its long history of commitment to the Milwaukee Public Museum," Chairman Holloway added. "I'm pleased we will play a role in this great institution's recovery."

Milwaukee County owns the Milwaukee Public Museum building and artifacts. Currently, the County provides more than \$3 million in direct operating funds annually to the Museum.

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